7/12/75

Mr. Tom Susman, Counsel
Administrative Practices Subcommittee
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

This is a preaching the practise of which I can claim if the preaching is on any interest.

CBS is doing an assassination series. They've been working on it for a while. A half hour each from JFK,RFK,King and Wallace, to be aired in November.

Within the past few days CBS cabled Burke Marshall in Europe for access to those autopsy materials covered by the GSA-family contract, to be seen for CBS by still another seemingly qualified military-connected pathologist, as I recall the name Dr. James T. Weston. He is also president-elect of the Society of Forensic Sciences.

If you do not recall it, I refused two federal solicitations to view this material. Also, I was the first to request access to it and to be rejected.

There is no incompetency here. There was a considerable chance over the years.

Aside from the changes brought to pass by the events of those years there was a changed situation. There was at the time officialdom not Marshall decided that the time had come when it wanted those without adequate background in relevant fact to see the stuff the certainty that the press would treat anything said not in support of the official story as proof that the Kennedy family was and is responsible for the suppression of evidence.

I know before it was public that the old Kennedy-hater Lattmer was going to be the first. The government (Rhoads) not Marshall made this decision, Marshall merely rubber stamped it. My proofs are beyond question.

Thereafter there ensued the largest and most bitter of the many fights within what has come to be called the critical community. I wound up a minority of exactly one and the one proven right by all subsequent events. It did not stop when Lattimer spoke to Fred Graham in advance and then had a press conference staged for him by this same CBS. And all treatment was as proof of Kennedy-family suppression. My files are extensive, complete and open to any inspection.

I can expand this enormously should anyone want it expanded, with tapes of conversations of those involved, interviews by and with a number and correspondence. And the writings of those granted access, no one of which is honest or accurate.

The government still does not want the truth out or it would not be fighting my suits for the basic, non-family evidence as it is. As I told you long ago the second-line of defense of those responsible for all that is wrong with the official explanation is to blame it on the family.

There is a long and consistent and even current record on this besides in my suits. It relates to this material, too. The most recent example is withholding from me several documents subject to the Kennedy-to-blame interpretation. They relate to the so-called Game of Transfer. I finally forced it out after some eight years. Then I also made a request for everything declassified as it was declassified. These pages to this moment have not been given to me. But they have been given to a reporter who is a friend of mine. The government knows I will see another interpretation in these pages because it knows what I have already written and said. Those communications do not mean that RFK suppressed, either. But they'll be used that way.

The Department of Disinformation operations now current are greater than ever. I have just spent considerable effort breaking up one publishing deal for a fake and

fraudulent book. As a result that books has been contracted by a minor publisher who will not be able to give it the promotion larger publishers would. I also have just broken up its scandalous treatment by a publication with enormous circulation. If I can not get that publication to do a story on the faking itself perhaps there can be some good from this because there are others like it in the works. Information on them comes to me largely because there are those in the press who consult me, having learned over the years that some will give them sensational stories and some will give them solid information and opinions.

Going along with this is the most selective and out-of-order declassification. You have, I believe some indication of this from carbons of some of the hot letters I've written. And here again there is visible scapegoating I can and have in fact traced back to J.Edgar Hoover in very early 1964. He was a cunning one!

There is much more of this if it is of interest. I'm not taking your time or mine for it now but will if anyone should want me to. The evidence is all one way and there is very much of it. I will be in Washington for the coming calendar call 7/8 and the results we are fighting hard to frustrate. After it I'll be at Jim Lesar's before I return home.

Going back to the CBS request and record there is what also should be considered. Part of this is the past. The four-part videowhitewash of 1967 was dictated and dominated by Midgely who, having moved upward, has taken direct control of this project. I can't imagine him using two new TV hours to prove that he whored around with the national interest and truth in the past.

Consistent with this is CBS's avoidance of me and my work. (They are trying to duplicate that of it they want rather than doing the normal, obtaining the ancillary rights, which would cost them enormously less.) This avoidance is deliberate not accidental. It can t be attributed to odd machismo, either. I have good sources and know what has been going on and is.

Three weeks ago one of the producers did finally call me. I then was busy. He has not called back and I've not asked him to. His interest in me and my work I know. It is limited and not calculated to give the show either an honest context or content.

In fact, if there is no change in the format, there is no possibility of the treatment of the JFK assassination being either honest or having that intent. There is ample indication of the doctrine in the interviewing and filming already done.

With all the existing footage of those who have seen the contracted material there also is no legitimate news need for another military-connected expert on nothing except what he was taught in college to see it. The only purpose that can be served is exactly what the contract says it is designed to preclude, the sensational. CBS' own footage includes lengthy interviews, even charts that I know of. They clearly want this to promote as their exclusive of another whitewash.

There is no treatment of the contract-covered material that does not require a particular context for it to avoid both dishonesty and another defamation of the Kennedy family. Please keep it confidential except where you may consider you need to share it but my information on intent comes from inside the project.

There is a simple answer to this request: enough experts have seen this material. If permission is granted to any one element of the media it would have to be granted to all and that would be sensationalizing a subject that should not be sensationalized.

Please remember in considering this advice that I twice refused invitations to do that which years later CBS now seeks to do. With this as with everything I tell you I am ready to provide the proofs.

The combination of these situations has forced me to make a difficult decision but I have made it. I will run the financial risks involved in being my own publisher of Post Mortem. This means going into debt again at 62 with no regular income. I am obtaining estimates and going ahead with printing.

Except for the appendix it is completed and has been for years, without any interest by established publishers who are still going for the sick and sensational or on the part of those of means in the critical community, not one of whom has offered to lend the money for the printing.

This book does have a context and that context is established by documentary proof. It will not depend on my word or interpretation, which is one of the reasons for its length. And I'm getting additional estimates for a longer book on thinner paper so I can include more of these documents in the appendix. I have to measure pennies like this because of shipping costs.

It is only the time required by the suit and the breaking up of these commercial indecencies that has held me up. I cannot avoid taking this kind of time. However, the index to the completed text is on my desk, on cards. As soon as I can I'll edit it, my wife will type it, and I'll be able to estimate the space available for the appendix. After the appendix is put together its content can be added to the index.

A month after this is completed I can have the book printed.

It is in this way and by running these personal risks only that I can frustrate all these new efforts not one of which I know of is tainted by minimal honesty of intent.

It will be more difficult for me today because there will be no help available. I'll have to do even the pasting up myself, which also means there is other work I should be doing that I'll not be able to.

But I have no choice left.

Regardless of how little attention the book may get it will make a record that will have some value. One of these is making more major-media dishonesties less easy for those involved in them. Another is to deter further obscenities like those I've been fighting and those others in the works.

And, I believe, a real kind of insurance because it will all be in context and because it is absolutely definitive on fact and on responsibility.

In addition to what I've told you in the past I would like you to be aware of a few simple facts. The unquestionable evidence I have assembled, especially the "new" evidence, leaves no doubt that the JFK killing was a conspiracy. Whether or not Oswald did any shooting- and the evidence that he could not have is close to certain - this means another or others were involved, are unexposed, and have motive for remaining unexposed at whatever cost. Hoover knew all of this from the first and from the first sought to cover it. Whatever his motive the fact can't be contested and the Department and the FBI have refused to in court. There remains what must be an enormous number of people with guilty knowledge, those who have been silent knowing better all these years. Especially in the FBI. All of these have other defensive motives.

So I feel I have no real choice and will proceed with the printing of this book as rapidly as my very limited capabilities permit. I have four outstanding offers for the first-use rights in return for a 5,000 print. If none is accepted I'll still go ahead on my own. At the pace events are proceeding I doubt I'll delay the printing if any offer requires it. But I am not under illusions about the time printing will still require.

I have heard from one with another net that both others are considering what CBS has announced, so there is the probability of other requests like Midgeley's, for access to that material. I do really believe there should now be a fixed policy

against any further access. Another policy will make a Pandora's Box of this now.

This situation can change only when there is a context. It isn't possible to find an "expert" who qualifies under the contract who has or can have the factual basis in the other evidence required for anything other than I've forecast.

I have heard reports that "all" is going to be released. I have asked no questions about this but I repeat that now this would be an enormous disaster.

After there is a context, limited as may be the attention to Fort Worth, further misuse will be less easy.

My conviction that all these are truths is established by what else I've done. There is a possible non-commercial use that can get decent and extensive attention. If I cannot bring the book out by then I have already committed myself to give it away.

If you can begin to imagine the amount of hard and unpaid work I have done for close to a decade on this book alone and the sacrifice giving it all away means you at least have a measure of my sincerity in this. You can, of course, question my judgement. You can also have the proof without leaving your building that I have made this promise. And that pursuant to it people have been here and seen some of the evidence and will be back again I expect soon.

I had hoped to be able to write you about this and with less haste several days ago but it was impossible.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg